

### REMARKS

Claims 1-3, and 5-8, pending in the application, have been canceled.

New Claims 18-23 have been substituted in place thereof.

Applicant and Applicant's attorney wish to thank Examiner David Bochna for the courtesies extended in an interview on August 8, 2003. Newly added independent claim has all of the limitations therein as discussed with Examiner Bochna. It is believe that independent Claim 18 distinguishes over all the references as was specifically pointed out to the Examiner.

The primary reference applied by the Examiner was Bollfrass. As was pointed out to the Examiner, the present invention is a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe that is used primarily in the water well industry. Steel pipe used in the oilfield industry is totally different from the PVC pipe used in the water well industry. The PVC pipe has different characteristics and reacts differently under different stresses, loads and temperatures. Independent Claim 18 specifically claims a PVC pipe. The Bollfrass patent is specifically a metal pipe and even makes reference to inner metal-to-metal seal (column 3, line 2). Also, the Bollfrass patent is directed towards a high tensile strength threaded connection. The present invention, being a PVC pipe, is not a high tensile strength threaded connection.

Singleton, applied by the Examiner as a secondary reference, again is for metal casings used in oil wells. Each of the claims as contained in the Singleton patent specifically claims a well casing. The invention of Singleton is directed towards hooking the lower casing so that upon disconnecting a joint, it will not disconnect below the joint desired. Singleton is not a PVC

pipe. Further, Singleton does not provide for the "lateral strength" as specifically claimed in independent Claim 18. The pipe shown in Singleton has a male threaded end on each end. It simply has a coupling located therebetween. The present claimed invention does not require a coupling.

Applicant also discussed with the Examiner the PVC water well casings and screens by Mid-Continent, which had been disclosed to the Examiner in an Invention Disclosure Statement. As was pointed out to the Examiner, this prior art is large casing, not smaller water well pipe. Further, the large casing as shown in the Mid-Continent brochure has solvent welds on either end thereof. The solvent welds prevent the PVC casing from being reused. Once it is attached together, it cannot be taken apart without major damage to the casing. Also, there is very little lateral support provided in the casing. Specifically as discussed with the Examiner, the following limitations were included:

"said second enlarged interior diameter being at least long enough to receive most of said external threads from said similar adjacent PVC pipe therein before threading...

...

said PVC pipe being reusable."

Neither of these limitations are met by the pipe as shown in the Mid-Continent brochure. The current PVC pipe is designed to be reusable and could be taken apart and put back together many, many times. The present invention also has sufficient overlap in the second enlarged interior diameter to provide the lateral support.

Also, the Simmons reference was discussed with the Examiner. It was specifically pointed out that the Simmons reference is not a PVC pipe, but is a carbon fiber reinforced plastic pipe. Further, the Simmons reference is directed more towards the use of a layer 22 of carbon fibers to seal the joints. Also, it was pointed out that the Simmons reference did not provide the necessary lateral support. Specifically, the Simmons reference was not long enough to receive most of said external threads therein before threading. The length of the second enlarged interior diameter should be long enough to give lateral support when connected. Simmons does not provide the necessary lateral support.

Blount was also discussed with the Examiner. Blount again is a metal pipe, not a PVC pipe. Again, Blount is for well casing and not for a type of drop pipe like the prevent invention. Blount is directed towards a liner contained therein of a corrosive resistant ferrous well tubing. Also, Blount does not have a second enlarged interior diameter that receives most of said external threads therein before threading.

The Examiner was also shown a brochure for the Shur-Align product made by Modern Products Industries, Inc., as well as a sample of the product. Further, it was pointed out to the Examiner the long-felt need in the industry, failure of others to satisfy the need, and the commercial success of the Shur-Align product when introduced into the market.

It was also pointed out to the Examiner a subsequent product manufactured by CertainTeed Corporation that copied Applicant's invention. Specifically, a sample of the CertainTeed product was shown to the Examiner, as well as a CertainTeed brochure, which is

included as part of the Invention Disclosure Statement.

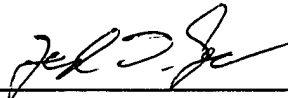
CONCLUSION

It is believe that Applicant has complied with all of the requirements of the Examiner. The claim has been amended in a manner as discussed with the Examiner in an interview on August 8, 2003. A Notice of Allowance is requested as promptly as possible so further infringement of Applicant's patent can be stopped as quickly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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